

MINUTES

CITY OF WARR ACRES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY
JANUARY 28, 2008
7:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to Order at 7:00 p.m. Declaration of a quorum present was given.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Marietta Tardibono
Vice-Mayor Stewart Shapiro
Councilman Dean Johnson
Councilwoman Jan Blake
Councilwoman Nancy Olson
Councilman Jeff Martinez
Councilman Mike Gossman (arrived at 7:14 p.m.)

ABSENT

Councilman Walter Johnson
Councilman Stan Street

2. Approval of a Declaration of an emergency on the city's Bucket Truck for the immediate replacement of said truck for the protection and safety of the employees using said equipment.

Councilman D. Johnson asked if the current truck had ever been grounded. Street Supervisor Robertson stated that as far as he knew it never had been. Councilwoman Olson asked how often the truck is used. She was told that they use to cut limbs, hang decorations and work on signal lights. Councilman Martinez asked if the city could borrow one from the county until the city could get another one. Councilman Shapiro stated that he is concerned about the danger and that the city really needs to get a new one before something happens to an employee. Councilwoman Blake stated that she did not think the city should spend any more money on the truck to get it fixed.

Motion by Shapiro, second by Martinez to declare an emergency. Poll vote: D. Johnson, yea; Blake, yea; Martinez, yea; Shapiro, yea; Olson, yea; and Tardibono, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

3. Approval to waive competitive bidding for the replacement of the Bucket Truck.

Motion by D. Johnson, second by Shapiro to waive the competitive bidding process. Poll vote: D. Johnson, yea; Blake, yea; Martinez, yea; Shapiro, yea; Olson, yea; and Tardibono, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

4. Approval and appropriation of funds for the lease/purchase of the Bucket Truck for the payments that will be made in this fiscal year.

Clerk Ramirez stated that she had been in contact with Mid-First bank and they are interested in financing the truck but currently did not have any numbers.

Motion by D. Johnson, second by Blake to have the City Clerk move forward to secure financing and bring it back to the council for approval. Poll vote: D. Johnson, yea; Blake, yea; Martinez, yea; Shapiro, yea; Olson, yea; and Tardibono, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

5. Review of Mid-Year Revenue and Expenditures for FY 2007-2008.

The Mayor read the report that Clerk Ramirez had included in their agenda packets. The revenue is at 56% and the expenditures are at 51%. The council went through the report department by department.

6. Discussion and possible action to hire a full time code enforcer. *Martinez*

Bob Wehba told the council that he would like to do the code enforcement on a full time or part time basis. The Mayor asked him if he would consider starting out as a volunteer and allow the city time to look at the money situation. He said that they could talk about it. Councilman Martinez stated that he liked the idea and the Mayor asked Mr. Wehba to come and meet with her so that they could discuss it.

7. Discussion and possible action on raising the starting pay for rookie police officers. *Blake*

Councilwoman Blake stated that the low pay keeps applicants from coming in and that the city should raise the starting pay to at least that of jailers. Chief Patty stated that the current gap between the starting pay and the increase they receive after probation is \$8,784 and that he was going to ask the council to change it at budget time. He said that the average is \$33,500 and he would like to see the city raise it to \$29,000-\$30,000. Chief Carter said that they also needed to change the starting pay for Firefighters. Councilman Gossman asked how much it cost to train a new officer because training cost is part of the salary. He was told that

there is no cost. Councilman Gossman stated that he would like to see the pay increased a little and then maybe again after they finish Field training. Councilman Martinez stated that with all their overtime they probably make close to what the jailer pay is. Chief Patty stated that there is really not overtime during training. The Mayor stated that Mr. Henley is working on the pay scale.

Motion by Blake, second by Tardibono to raise the starting pay by \$3,000, have the attorney prepare the Ordinance to amend the pay scale from \$22,800 to \$25,800 and then \$1,000 after satisfactory field training police and after receiving firefighter I certification. Poll vote: D. Johnson, yea; Blake, yea; Martinez, yea; Shapiro, yea; Olson, yea; and Tardibono, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

8. Adjournment.

Motion by Blake, second by D. Johnson to adjourn. Poll vote: D. Johnson, yea; Blake, yea; Martinez, yea; Shapiro, yea; Olson, yea; and Tardibono, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela McDowell-Ramirez
City Clerk